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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/738,267	12/15/2000	Alson Kemp	TRIPP013	1642
22434	7590	11/15/2004	EXAMINER	
BEYER WEAVER & THOMAS LLP			NGUYEN, DANNY	
P.O. BOX 778			ART UNIT	
BERKELEY, CA 94704-0778			PAPER NUMBER	

2836

DATE MAILED: 11/15/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

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Office Action Summary	Application No. 09/738,267	Applicant(s) KEMP ET AL.	
	Examiner Danny Nguyen	Art Unit 2836	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
 - If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
 - If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
 - Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 14 September 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-7 and 10-12 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 11 and 12 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-7 and 10 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Arguments

1. Applicant's arguments filed 09/14/2004 with respect to claims 1, 10, 11, 12 have been fully considered. In view of these arguments, claims 11 and 12 are allowed; claims 1 and 10 are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. Claims 1, 2, 5-7, 10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Harrel (USPN 4,054,830) in view of Gannon (USPN 5,414,340).

Regarding to claims 1, 2, 6, 10, Harrel discloses a protection circuit (see fig. 1) comprises a switch circuitry (such as the pass transistor Q2) connected to and passing current between an input voltage node (the input node 15) and a supply voltage node (the output node B), switch control circuitry (such as 21 and 41) for sensing the supply voltage and regulating current flow through the switch circuitry in response thereto, wherein the switch control circuitry comprises a three terminal regulator (e.g. the three terminal regulator 21) configured as a voltage controlled current source to provide a control signal to control the switching circuit (e.g. col. 3, lines 5-8), wherein an output of the regulator (the

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output 26 of the regulator 21 is connected to the output node B) coupled to the supply voltage such that a change in the supply voltage varies an output current from the regulator, and thereby varies an input current to the regulator from the control signal is generated. Harrel does not disclose that the regulator 21 is a buck regulator. However, Gannon teaches that buck regulator is well known in the art that provide good regulation (col. 2, lines 18-31). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have modified the regulator of Harrel to incorporate the buck regulator as disclosed by Gannon in order to provide good regulation and good attenuation of noise from the external source (col. 2, lines 18-21).

Regarding claim 5, Harrel discloses a plurality of transistor configured in parallel (such as Q2, Q3, Q4).

Regarding to claim 7, Harrel discloses a divider (46 and 47) for sensing the supply voltage (B).

3. Claims 3 and 4 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Edwards in view of Walker (USPN 4,887,021). Harrel discloses the pass transistor (Q2) is bipolar transistor, but do not disclose the transistor as claimed. Walker discloses transistor is MOSFETs including PMOS and NMOS transistor (see col. 9, lines 37-42). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have modified the bipolar transistor of Harrel to use PMOS and NMOS transistors as taught by Walker in order to control current and voltage rise time (col. 4, lines 48-54).

Allowable Subject Matter

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4. Claims 11 and 12 are allowed.

Conclusion

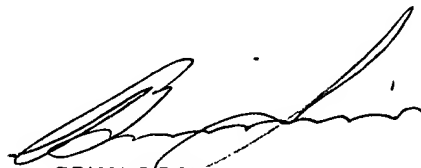
5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Danny Nguyen whose telephone number is (571)-272-2054. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon to Fri 8:00 AM to 4:30 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Brian Sircus can be reached on (571)-272-2058. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

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11/2/2204



BRIAN SIRCUS
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2836